

### **Allotments: Deadline, Little Piney and Buckbrush S&G's**

The following letter will document your meeting with Sid J. Lopez on April 7, 2015, and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2015 summer grazing season for the Noh Sheep Co. The District Ranger must approve any changes to this AOI.

The grazing system on this allotment is deferred rotation. The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

<b>Allotment(s)</b>	<b>Permitted Numbers</b>	<b>Permitted Season of Use</b>	<b>2015 Authorized Numbers</b>	<b>Authorized Season of Use</b>
Deadline S&G*	1200 e/l	6/1 – 10/30	920 ewes 1450 lambs	6/1 - 10/30
Little Piney S&G	1000 e/l	6/5 – 10/27		
Buckbrush S&G	1400 e/l	5/13 – 10/20	950 ewes 1450 lambs	5/13 – 10/20

\*Deadline and Little Piney S&G are presently being managed as one allotment

### **2015 ROTATION SCHEDULE**

#### **Buckbrush S&G**

Livestock will enter the Forest on May 13 with 950 ewes & 1450 lambs beginning in the Third Fork Unit 13 and unloading at the firewood bridge into Wooden Shoe and then to Units 2, 4, and 3 then moving south to the corrals on the back side of Magic Mountain until approximately August 1 when all the sheep will be moved into the Walstrom Unit (12) until the off date of October 20 (reverse in 2016). North Buckbrush (Unit 1) will be rested in 2014 & 2015.

#### **2015 Bighorn Sheep Management Guides**

- 1) The permittee will notify the Minidoka Ranger District prior to trucking onto the National Forest.
- 2) The permittee will notify the Minidoka Ranger District of all Bighorn sheep sightings as soon as possible, preferably within 24 hours.
- 3) The permittee will notify the Minidoka Ranger District of all stray domestic sheep within 24 hours of discovery. When strays are found they will be removed from the allotment or returned to the band. The District will be notified of location where strays are found and action taken by the permittee.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on the forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

**PREDATOR CONTROL:** Use of guard dogs is recommended. Predator losses are reduced with the use of guard animals.

**LIVESTOCK DISTRIBUTION:** It is agreed that proper salting techniques be used such as placing salt in areas of low natural concentration by the livestock, at least ¼ mile away from water and on ridges accessible to livestock. Salt should not be placed within 100 feet of roads and trails or placed in shaded areas, in meadows or in areas of heavy utilization.

**HERDING:** The key to proper management of this sheep range is annual once-over grazing, with the exception of designated sheep driveways, travel routes, or where specifically authorized. We realize that sheep will cross certain areas twice as they move to and from corrals, between certain units as well as entering and exiting the allotment. In an effort to minimize soil disturbance and erosion, keep concentrated bands of sheep off steep slopes. If steep hill slopes cannot be avoided, contour across the slope in a loose manner, rather than moving the animals in a tight group directly downhill. Make an effort to graze, rather than trail to water.

**HORSES:** Care should be used around camping areas so that the herder's horses don't over graze these areas. This may require supplemental feed if you plan to stay in one camp location for any length of time. It is preferred that the herder not have more than two horses at any one time.

**CAMPING:** The herder is to see that the camp areas are kept clean. All garbage is to be hauled off the Forest. Forest policy is "Pack it in/Pack it out".

**FIRE:** At no time is a campfire to be left unattended. Campfires must be dead out before leaving camp. If the grazing season turns out to be hot and dry, campfires may be disallowed. Each camp should have a water bucket, a good shovel, and an axe at all times.

**BILLING:**

Grazing fees will be \$0.34 per head per month for 2015.

**DUE DATE:**

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. As a reminder, the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay your grazing fees.

Little Piney S&G Allotment  
Cassia Division  
Minidoka Ranger District  
Sawtooth National Forest

□ Allotment/Pasture Boundary

